financial year. At present, Japanese Yen loans have a repayment period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years and carry interest at the rate of 2.5 per cent p.a.

Senior officers in the Department of Income Tax

1046. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Commissioners of Income-tax (CIT) and the officers above the rank of Commissioners in the department in the country and what is the number out of them of those belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes;

(b) what is the total number of Commissioners of Income-tax who have prematurely retired during the last five years and how many of them belonged to the Scheduled Castes; and

(c) what is the number of officers in the department who are under suspension facing charges of supersession, removal and dismissal and inquiries and investigations by C.B.I. and what is the number out of them who belong to the Scheduled Castes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) There are 303 officers of the rank of Commissioner of Income-tax and above in the Income-tax department out of whom 18 belong to Scheduled Castes and 8 belong to Scheduled Tribes.

(b) During the last five years 10 Commissioners of Income-tax have been prematurely retired under Fundamental Rule 56(j) out of whom 3 belong to the Scheduled Castes.

(c) 21 Gazetted Officers of the Income Tax department are under suspension out of whom 4 belong to Scheduled Castes.

149 Gazetted officers of the Income-tax department are facing major penalty proceedings out of whom 21 belong to Scheduled Castes.

31 Gazetted officers of the Income Tax department are facing investigations in which FIR has been registered by the C.B.I. Out of these 4 belong to Scheduled Castes.

Busting of Gold Smuggling Racket by DRI

1047. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has busted a major racket of gold smuggling and Hawala transactions to the tune of Rs. 50 crore in New Delhi during the month of April, 1990;

(b) if so, what are the details of the persons arrested in this connection;

(c) what are the details of the articles, cash, jewellery and other incriminating documents etc. seized during the raids; and

(d) what further actions are being contemplated by the Government against the persons involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two brothers named Sanjay and Lalit Goel residents of 214, Vivekananda Puri, New Delhi have been arrested.

(c) As a result of various searches conducted by the officers of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, 200 foreign marked gold biscuits of 10 tolas each valued at Rs. 79.78 lakhs and a sum of Rs. 5.92 lakhs in Indian currency, and a large quantity of imported medical and surgical equipment etc. have been recovered and seized. Certain documents have also been seized which indicate that during the period of about twelve months preceding the search, the

concerned persons had possibly indulged in Hawala or illegal foreign exchange transaction to the tune of Rs. 50 crores approximately mainly in connection with gold smuggling.

(d) The persons found involved are liable for penalty in departmental adjudication and for arrest/prosecution. They are also liable for detention under the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974.

Action against M/s. Voltas Limited for failure to achieve export target

1048. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been initiated against M/s. Voltas Limited on account of its failure to achieve its export commitments;

(b) whether the Ministry of Industry have been intimated about this fact and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether office of the C.C.I.E. under the Ministry of Commerce has been empowered to prevent imports by defaulting companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) A show cause notice dated 28-3-88 was issued to the party for enforcement of legal agreement dated 5-2-74 regarding non fulfilment of export obligation of 20 per cent of their annual production of High Capacity compressors for Air Condition and Referigeration Equipments for which the firm had been granted letter of intent dated 10-11-72.

(b) The firm represented to Department of Industrial Development and to this office against the said notice *vide* their letters dated 22-4-88 and 24-5-88. The matter was taken up with Department of Industrial Development on 10-5-89 for their advice/comments. Department of Industrial Development did not accept the firm's contention of fulfilment of export obligation vide their U.O. Note dated 21-9-89. The firm has represented again on 2-1-90 to Department of Industrial Development that the export obligation stands fulfilled by them. Final decision in this case is awaited.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Substituting the Export of iron ore with finished goods

1049. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN ANSARI:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have formulated a plan to phase out the export of iron ore and other raw materials used in steel making and substitute them with export of finished and semi-finished goods; and

(b) if so, what are the main outlines of the plan and the main purpose behind it?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) Department of Steel feels that, in the long term, it would not be feasible to continue to push iron ore exports as such. It would be more advantageous if such exports could be substituted with export of value added items such as iron and steel. Details of the strategy to be followed for this purpose will be finalised after examining the various issues and implications.

Fruits and vegetables to be processed by Pepsi Foods

1050. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the fruits and vegetables the Pepsi Foods plan to process, the quantity and value of each for the first three years; and